

## Ward 6 Staff



Steve Kozachik



Ann Charles



Diana Amado



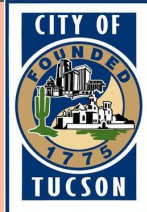
Amy Stabler



Alison Miller



Caroline Lee



# Ward 6 Newsletter

## Tucson First

March 7, 2016

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### Chief Magnus Meet and Greet



Please mark your calendars and plan to join us next Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> for our Ward 6 Meet and Greet with new police chief, Chris Magnus. Chris has been on the job for about a month and has already announced some in-house changes being considered. They respond to our budgetary challenges and the need to reconsider work assignments, force size, and other internal issues. I hope you can carve out the time to come and meet Chris.

**Tuesday, March 15, 2016 | 6:30 pm – 8 pm**  
**Ward 6, 3202 E 1st St**

### Budget

We're getting close to having enough current revenue and expenditure figures to be able to put together the framework of our FY'17 budget. I'm still in 'information-gathering' mode. To that end, in the past week I've asked staff to provide a few more bits and pieces of data. While I don't expect any one piece of this to be the magic pill that cures the budget deficit, each can possibly play its own small part in getting us across the finish line.

The information I requested falls into two categories: gathering facts on costs relat-



### Important Phone Numbers

#### Tucson Police Department

911 or nonemergency  
791-4444

#### Water Issues

791-3242/800-598-9449

Emergency: 791-4133

#### Street Maintenance

791-3154

#### Graffiti Removal

792-2489

#### Abandoned Shopping Carts

791-3171

#### Neighborhood Resources

837-5013

#### SunTran/SunLink

792-9222

TDD: 628-1565

#### Environmental Services

791-3171

#### Park Wise

791-5071

#### Planning and Development Services

791-5550

#### Pima Animal Care Center

724-5900

#### Pima County Vector Control

Cockroach: 443-6501

Mosquito: 243-7999

## Continued: A Message From Steve

ed to benefits, and getting clarification on staff's revenue proposals. First, the costs.

Our non-public safety pension program (Tucson Supplemental Retirement System – TSRS) began FY'15 with a funded ratio of about 65%. Compared to public safety, that's healthy, but my questions have focused on who's been paying how much to reach that funding level.

Depending on your date of hire, if you're a city employee you pay between 5% and 6.75% towards your pension. The city pays between 25.6% and 27.3%. The city payment comes from our general fund.

Back in 2013, the M&C adjusted member rates as described above, but also added a policy stating the percentage deducted from an employee's check "shall equal no less than 50%, and no more than 100% of the members 'Employee Segment Normal Cost.'" At the time I had asked we set the floor higher – to 75% of the normal cost but was unsuccessful in getting M&C to agree.

We also established an ability to increase the employee contribution by up to 2.5% of compensation in any given year. That will lower the city's general fund contribution. I've asked staff to explain the general fund impact of making that 2.5% adjustment now, both on our FY'16 deficit and going forward. I've also asked to see what the financial impact on our general fund would be if all new employees paid on a 50/50 basis for their pensions. We're not in a position to ignore any possibilities – which does not mean we'll necessarily exercise any of them, but we need the information.

In addition, I've asked to see what the general fund has paid out for Sick Leave Sell Back in each of the past four years. That's the money public safety workers can cash in if they have unused sick leave at the end of the year. I have data from a few years ago that showed the cost to the general fund was north of \$2M annually. We should know that, too. Here's the information on the GF subsidy of that benefit over the past four years:

FY 2012 - \$2,293,506.85

FY 2013 - \$2,484,609.78

FY 2014 – \$2,553,500.54

FY 2015 – \$2,688,664.05

FY 2016 Year to Date - \$1,798,913.12

It wasn't a popular issue when I raised it two years ago, but it's a lot of money we should at least be talking about.

In the area of getting staff to clarify some of their revenue suggestions, I asked for some background on the possible advertising tax. I asked similar questions three years ago when this came up, and I want to see if implementation has been given more thought out than it had been back then.

We were told that an advertising tax would generate about \$1M annually. My questions are these:

- Are there 1st Amendment issues as they relate to taxing corporate free speech?
- How do we administer the tax? If a McDonald's advertises on KVOA, do we tax corporate Mc's, the store at Speedway/Alvernon - how do we even apply the tax?
- What if the company is located in Marana? Are we taxing the Star and what they collect from the business (increase their advertising rates?) or does it only relate to businesses located in Tucson city limits?
- Is the intent to tax the entity posting the ad (television station, newspaper) based on what they charge? Where does the \$1M revenue estimate come from, and how would the tax be administered?

There must have been some analysis done in order to estimate the \$1M in revenue. I want to see that analysis (are we taxing the entity that posts the ad or the advertiser?) and use that as a reality check on how realistic the revenue projections are. I'm still concerned that an advertising tax would hurt our small local businesses most – not the sector we want to place our thumb on the scale against as we continue to recover from the recession.

Here are the staff responses (which, by the way, I appreciate since I know it takes them time to run down this material).

***Are there 1st Amendment issues as they relate to taxing corporate free speech?***

*The regulation of commercial speech does implicate the First Amendment, as commercial speech does enjoy certain 1st amendment protections; but the limitations aren't as strict as those on political speech. Specifically, imposing a tax on the business of providing advertising, as authorized in the Model City Tax Code, at the same level as we impose TPT on other business activities is permissible and doesn't implicate First Amendment limitations.*

Makes sense, but given Citizens United, I wouldn't be surprised if this interpretation gets challenged by somebody somewhere sometime. For now though, the tax appears to be allowed. As for its administration...

***How do we administer the tax? If a McDonald's advertises on KVOA, do we tax corporate Mc's, the store at Speedway/Alvernon - how do we even apply the tax?***

*Advertising tax is due by the business engaging in the business of "local advertising" by billboards, direct mail, radio, television, or by any other means. All delivery or disseminating of information directly to the public for a consideration shall be "local advertising" except the following:*

- The product or service is sold or provided both within Arizona and outside Arizona by more than one "commonly designated business entity" within Arizona and the ad does not name any "commonly designated business entity" or it names more than one "commonly designated business entity". A "commonly designated business entity" means any person selling or providing any product or service to its customers under a common business name or style even though more than one legal entity is conducting the business functions, i.e. franchises.*



**Important  
Phone Numbers**

Senator John  
McCain (R)  
520-670-6334

Senator Jeff  
Flake (R)  
520-575-8633

Congresswoman  
Martha McSally (R)  
(2<sup>nd</sup> District)  
(202) 225-2542  
Tucson Office: 520-  
881-3588

Congressman  
Raul Grijalva (D)  
(3<sup>rd</sup> District)  
520-622-6788

Governor Doug  
Ducey (R)  
602-542-4331  
Tucson office:  
520-628-6580

Mayor Jonathan  
Rothschild  
520-791-4201

ZoomTucson Map  
[http://  
maps.tucsonaz.gov  
/zoomTucson/](http://maps.tucsonaz.gov/zoomTucson/)

- b) Advertising a facility, service, or activity in which neither the facility nor business site conducting the services is located within Arizona.
- c) Advertising a product that may only be purchased from an out-of-state supplier.
- d) Political ads for US presidential and vice presidential candidates only.
- e) Advertising by product coupons that are redeemable at any retail establishment carrying the product but not product coupons redeemable only at a single commonly designated business activity.
- f) Advertising transportation services where a substantial portion of the transportation activity of the business entity advertised involve interstate or foreign carriage.

Under 19-405, income received by companies located inside Tucson city limits that is considered "local advertising" would be liable for the tax on advertising activity. This includes the radio and television stations (not KOLD since located in Marana), newspapers and magazines, cable companies, billboard companies with billboards inside Tucson, and Sun Tran. If the advertisement meets the definition of local advertising then the income would be subject to the Tucson tax. Some examples:

- 1) An ad saying eat at McDonalds would be exempt but an ad saying eat at the McDonalds at Speedway and Alvernon would be taxable.
- 2) An ad saying buy a Ford would be exempt but an ad saying buy a Ford at Jim Click would be taxable.
- 3) An ad saying shop at any Royal Buick dealerships would be taxable.
- 4) An ad for Hogie House would be taxable.
- 5) An ad for a local beauty salon would be taxable.
- 6) An ad for sales for real estate located within Arizona.
- 7) An ad for a hotel within Arizona if the location is listed like Hilton in Sedona.
- 8) Political ads for the state, county, or local candidates would be taxable but not for candidates running for US President or Vice President.

Newspapers such as the Daily Star would pay tax on their local advertising income. It is allocated to the various jurisdictions they service based on circulation numbers. Circulation is considered to occur at the place of delivery to the subscriber.

The advertising companies determine their taxable income and report the income on their monthly tax returns. These companies would be subject to audit like all companies operating inside Tucson are subject to audit.

**What if the company is located in Marana? Are we taxing the Star and what they collect from the business (increase their advertising rates?) or does it only relate to businesses located in Tucson city limits?**

The tax is due by the company disseminating the advertisement. If the television station is in Tucson and the ad is for a company located in Marana and meets the definition for local advertising, the income would be subject to Tucson tax. An ad for Cracker Barrel on Cracker Barrel Road in Marana would be taxable.

**There must have been some analysis done in order to estimate this would yield \$1M. Is**



***the intent to tax the entity posting the ad (television station, newspaper) based on what they charge? Where does this estimate come from, and how would the tax be administered?***

*The advertising tax revenue estimate is based on data from the 1990-91 City of Tucson tax reports. This was the last year the tax rate was at 2% for advertising, before the phase out period, in the City of Tucson and \$964,000 was collected.*

*Since the 1990-91 reporting period the ratios may have changed in the volume for certain types of advertising. Some would be down like newspaper ads and bill boards, and some may have increased like online forms of advertising. We have no current data to indicate the percentage of "local source specific advertising" that would have decreased or increased significantly since the 1990-91 data was collected. We assume local businesses that advertise still want to compel sales at their business locations verses some other. Also advertising businesses have experienced some inflation in their costs, like all business since the early 1990s, this would serve to increase the tax base of advertising leading to an increase in tax.*

*The administration of the tax would operate much like it did in the early 1990s. We would license the applicable businesses and hold taxpayer education training for the businesses that need it. We would provide tax returns that the businesses could report their activity on and remit with their payment for the tax due. Our license staff would continue to seek out the advertisers both local and online that were subject to the tax and seek to bring them into compliance. At some point the ADOR will take over the administration of the program and the tax payers would need report to and pay the State of Arizona for the Tucson tax.*

*After seeing that response, I continue to have issues with this proposed tax. It will be applied to local businesses only; will encourage companies who engage in any form of advertising to move outside the city limits; has the feel of an added burden on all businesses who operate in Tucson to sort through their advertising records and file reports; treats the three local television stations differently because one has its headquarters a couple of miles up I-10; and in a general sense taxes the generator of business activity (the advertising) which seems to me to be an activity we should be encouraging, not making more costly.*

*I'm still thinking through all of this – it has to fit into our larger picture. We can't lose sight of the fact that we have a \$25M budget hole to fill.*

#### ***Metro Chamber***

*Once we have the City Manager's budget proposal, I will likely add thoughts or suggest changes to it. To help inform those changes, I've reached out to the Metro Chamber's policy folks and invited them to sit down with me and work through the Manager's proposed budget together.*

*The Chamber has a City Budget Task Force. My intent is to have a full, open, and very frank conversation with them about what we're facing and hear their suggestions. If we're still going to consider a ballot measure of some sort later this year to help get us to a struc-*

turally balanced position, it'll be important to have the support of what we pass from a broad spectrum of stakeholders. Last week we held a community forum on the budget and listened to input from citizens/constituents. The Chamber is another one of the groups that deserves a voice at the table before we take anything to a vote.

### ***Water Bills and the Budget***

Our Citizen's Water Advisory Committee is an active group that's made up of people well-versed in our water policies. They've submitted to us a letter that raises some legitimate questions. I'll include their letter verbatim.

**cwac**

Citizens' Water Advisory Committee  
City of Tucson  
P.O.Box 27210  
Tucson, AZ 85726-7210

**DATE:** March 2, 2016

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and  
Council Members

**FROM:** Brian K. Wong  
Chair, CWAC

**SUBJECT:** City of Tucson Mayor and Council Water Policies Clarifications

Over the past year, discussion amongst the committee members about the Mayor and Council Water Policies has come up on multiple occasions. The Water Policies document was passed by Mayor and Council on January 26, 1998, and is currently 18 years old. CWAC has identified a number of issues with certain policies and is concerned about which policies should continue to be followed and which policies need to be revised. Tucson Water is currently developing the FY 2017 financial plan with a FY 2018-2021 proposed plan. There are three items for which CWAC requests direction from Mayor and Council (M&C):

#### **1. PAYMENT IN-LIEU OF PROPERTY TAX**

For the past six years the City of Tucson has charged Tucson Water \$1.6 million per year for Payment In-Lieu of Property Tax (PILOT). These monies are in turn collected from all ratepayers with the funds going into the General Fund. This payment will increase to \$2.0 million (FY 2017) at the direction of the City of Tucson Finance Department and continue into the future. Will this fee be a permanent charge to Tucson Water?

#### **2. LOW-INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

According to M&C Water Policies (III.A.1.e), funding of this program will be "from the general fund of the City and not from water rates." Since FY 2011, Tucson Water has funded this program. Initially, funding was \$500,000, and the proposed budget figure for FY 2017 is \$925,000 and increasing into the future.

CWAC has been informed by Tucson Water that "the Low-Income Program and the adopted Water Policies can in fact coexist with the knowledge of M&C." Is this the position of Mayor & Council?

#### **3. PUBLIC WORKS FUNDING**

The M&C Water Policies (III.A.5.e) state: "Capital requirements for relocations or other modifications to the water system required to accommodate other public works shall be derived from sources other than the water utility." Tucson Water has been funding its own relocation of infrastructure during public works and road improvements over the past years. What is Mayor & Council's position on this policy?

The way those apply to the current budget talks is simply, do we continue the “in-lieu” payment to the general fund, should low-income subsidies be charged to the general fund or to the Water Department, and should Tucson Water pay for infrastructure relocations or should other project funds be used? Each is a good topic for the CWAC to raise, and each deserves our consideration before we finish budget talks.

### ***Special Events and Economic Development RFP***

On a final budget note, we’re issuing requests for proposals on both civic events and economic and workforce development again. Here are links to both applications:

[Special Events RFP](#)

[Workforce Development RFP](#)

Right now, we have \$50K allocated in the FY’17 budget for civic events and \$450K more for workforce development. I continue to believe the ratio of those dollars should be more heavily tilted toward support for civic events. I have fought that battle and lost in the past, so I won’t bring it back to the table again this year. This is \$500K of general fund money that will also have to be looked at during these talks. None of the money is guaranteed, but if you’re thinking of applying, get your paperwork in before April 1<sup>st</sup> or it won’t be considered whether we have the money to allocate or not.

### ***Civic Events – USA Rugby Playoffs, Festival of Books, and 10 West***

When we recruit outside civic events to town, they bring visitors who boost our tax rolls. When we host homegrown civic events, the local businesses involved get a boost in traffic during the activities. The upcoming Rugby tourney, Tucson Festival of Books, and 10 West are examples.

Beginning on May 21<sup>st</sup>, 40 club teams from across the country will begin to compete for the Men’s Division I, II and III, and the Women’s Division I and II National Championships. Thanks to the hard work of the Tucson Rugby Football Club and Brent DeRaad and his sports tourism group at Visit Tucson –this will be the first time this event will be hosted at Kino Stadium.



Kino will host the western portion of the national quarterfinals and semi-finals on the weekend of May 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. If things go as planned, our own Alison Miller's women's team will be one of those participating.

After the recent upgrades to accommodate FC Tucson Soccer, the facility has two grandstands with capacities of 1,000 and 3,000. It'd be great if they were full for this event.

This is really a return of rugby tournaments to Tucson. Back in the '90s, my old friend Dave Sitton was instrumental in bringing the Michelob Classic to town. It'll be great to have this international sport back. The national championships will be held in Glendale. With a good turnout, maybe we could do some poaching and get them down here.

### ***Book Festival***



Coming next week, March 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> is another year of the Tucson Festival of Books on the UA mall. This event brings in people from all over – authors and events representing self-publishing, educational STEM fields, screenwriting, the environment and pretty much anything you might want to find in print. The Festival raises money for literacy programs all over Southern Arizona.

This year there'll be a few different special events you might want to check out. Those include a presentation on the 100-year anniversary of the National Parks as a federal agency, multiple events in honor of Shakespeare and Edgar Allan Poe, and a unique Science City. Promoted as "the largest science event ever held in the state," Science City will have hands on activities, conversations with science authors and researchers, and the out of this world UA OSIRIS-Rex team on site. They're getting ready for a September 8<sup>th</sup> launch of a mission headed for an asteroid.

My favorite will be the live animal shows at 10 am on both days on the science stage. There will also be tours of the Flandrau Science Center, the UA Tree-Ring Lab and the UA Mirror Casting Lab.

The Festival of Books is without a doubt one of our signature civic events. It's important to our economy and to framing who we are as a community.



One more key civic event we should support is this week-long celebration of young entrepreneurs that took place all along the streetcar route last fall. Our office was proud to be part of helping to prepare and promote 10West. This event ties in directly with the mission of Start Up Tucson to keep and nurture our young entrepreneurial talent.

The 2015 report-out was just released. During their inaugural year, 10West featured seven days of events focused on technology, entrepreneurship and creative arts. There were 18 individual events with over 90 sessions and over 3,000 people took part throughout the week.



## The Events

Envision Tucson Sustainability Festival

Connected Communities Leadership Conference with the University of Arizona

Meet Me At Maynards Kick-off Event

Technology – 2 days of Talks, Workshops and Panels

Entrepreneurship – 2 days of Talks, Workshops and Panels

Technology Mixer at Playground

KXCI Studio Tour

Wavelab Studio Tour

Tucson Young Professionals Ignite520

IdeaFunding

Southwest Regional Angel Capital Conference

UA Founders Breakfast

Tech Launch Arizona Showcase

Flycatcher with Lisa Landry

Tucson Music Showcase at Hotel Congress

Daft Punk Tribute at the Rialto Theatre

Tucson Pima Arts Council art panel

Toole Ave Art Walk

Here's a listing of some of the events they hosted during Year 1.

The community got on board with 10 media sponsors, 15 financial sponsors and 23 partner organizations. Greg Teesdale, the event organizer has told me that he was very pleased with the level of community engagement and is looking forward to this year's event being even bigger. It will take place from October 21<sup>st</sup> through October 28<sup>th</sup>. This year they're going to kick off 10West with the Film Fest Tucson on Friday, October 21st. Last year that was organized through the Visit Tucson Film Office. This time, Herb Stratford has agreed to take the lead on organizing the festival. It'll be hosted at the Scottish Rite Cathedral downtown and will run from October 20-23. As a 'destination' film festival, it will join 10West in attracting visitors from outside of Tucson. Much more on these two co-joined events to come.

Of course, we'll be involved again. If you'd like to pitch in as well, contact Greg at [greg@startuptucson.com](mailto:greg@startuptucson.com).

## Puppies, etc.



Meet Nelson. Nelson's body needs to grow into the size of his nose. He's a Shar Pei pooch who arrived in Massachusetts from a puppy mill. He became quite the local folk hero in the run-up to the Boston City Council adopting their own version of an anti-puppy mill ordinance last week.

Similar to what other puppy mill ordinances have achieved, the one in Boston bans the sale of puppies, kittens, and rabbits in retail stores. It's designed to do what ours will do if we ever get around to finalizing it: cut down on the market puppy mills have with retail outlets for the sale of the animals they raise in abhorrent conditions.

*Photo credit: MSPCA*

Boston joins over 120 other cities and towns nationwide in approving these measures. Ours is on hold until the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court hears the appeal of Phoenix's ban. The guys who filed

the appeal have been trying to get the Phoenix City Council to water down their ordinance and settle. To their credit, the folks in Phoenix are holding their ground on principle. We've been waiting for over a year.



While I'd like to suggest this is an example of a puppy mill in Oklahoma or some other location, these photos were in fact taken inside the kennels at Tucson Greyhound Park.

People don't usually get the chance to see what a dump this actually is. These dogs are left in their cages (note that they're wearing their muzzles, too) for hours on end. Last week you might have caught the KVOA story on dogs dying out there. It certainly wasn't from being offered medication such as this:



Steroids aren't supposed to be found inside the TGP kennels. Kind of hard to avoid seeing this violation though.

All of these photos were taken on February 26<sup>th</sup>. Two days earlier, the track sent two dogs with what appeared to be viral pneumonia to a local rescue. A third was sent to Briarcrest Vet Hospital on Saturday and died. Due to the very secretive nature of how that place operates, it's hard to get a firm figure on just how many have died, how many are in the care of rescues, and how many are in isolation at the vet's. In order to try to track down that

information and get the state to do its regulatory part in terms of track oversight, I sent this letter out last week. It went to Rudy Casillas, head of the Arizona Department of Gaming:

*Mr. Casillas;*

*Attached is a copy of the Pima Animal Care inspection report referencing activity out at TGP last week. I'm sure you're aware that there have been dogs dying of suspected viral pneumonia (track GM though called it distemper - which should raise further concerns on your part), and multiple dogs being turned over to local rescues for their care and attention.*

*Note in the photos attached to the report bottles of meds, some labeled 'steroids.' These are located inside the kennels. I'm cc'ing into this email Ms. Susan Via. You're aware of her complaint filed on 12/28/15, finally acknowledged on 2/4/16 by Mr. Stiles. No action has been taken on the complaint. The attached photos are submitted to you in support of Ms. Via's complaint.*

*For your reference, that complaint is #15/16-277.*

*What is your department doing with respect to finalizing Ms. Via's complaint?*

*What is your department doing with respect to ensuring the health conditions at TGP are under control?*

*What is your department doing to encourage TGP ownership to participate financially in the care and rehabilitation of injured and/or ill animals coming from their facilities?*

*With this ongoing health and injury issue surrounding Tucson Greyhound Park, what steps is your department taking to ensure regular and thorough inspections of the site?*

*Thank you for your attention to Ms. Via's complaint, and your response to these questions.*

The reply I received was from Casillas' employee, Greg Stiles. I'll be offering a more detailed response, but here's the exchange as it has evolved this far. Mr. Stiles' writing is in **orange** and my original message will be in **blue**.

>>> **Greg Stiles** <[GStiles@azgaming.gov](mailto:GStiles@azgaming.gov)> 03/04/16 1:55 PM >>>

**Mr. Kosachik, Mr. Casillas has sent your email over to me. My answers are below.**

**Greg Stiles**  
**Arizona Dept. of Gaming**  
**Division of Racing**

**From:** Steve Kozachik [<mailto:Steve.Kozachik@tucsonaz.gov>]

**Sent:** Thursday, March 03, 2016 12:14 PM

**To:** Rudy Casillas; [czechnut@comcast.net](mailto:czechnut@comcast.net)

**Subject:** TGP Inspection

Mr. Casillas;

Attached is a copy of the Pima Animal Care inspection report reference activity out at TGP last week. I'm sure you're aware that there have been dogs dying of suspected viral pneumonia (track GM though called it distemper - which should raise further concerns on your part,) and multiple dogs being turned over to local rescues for their care and attention.

Note in the photos attached to the report bottles of meds, some lables 'steroids.' These are located inside the kennels. I'm cc'ing into this email Ms. Susan Via. You're aware of her complaint filed on 12/28/15, finally acknowledged on 2/4/16 by Mr. Stiles. No action has been taken on the complaint. The attached photos are submitted to you in support of Ms. Via's complaint.

For your reference, that complaint is #15/16-277.

What is your department doing with respect to finalizing Ms. Via's complaint? In regards to your assumption that no action has been taken. The complaint was logged into our system and I assigned an investigator to the task of interviewing those listed in the complaint within a couple of days of Ms. Via's email. Ms. Via concludes the report by asking "*that all licensees, track employees, and Department employees/officials be investigated for their respective roles in the ongoing practice of unauthorized administration of anabolic steroids . . .*"

I have an investigator working on the complaint and speak with that investigator often. I am aware he has conducted interviews with state personnel at the Tucson track and track management. Yet, other investigative work needs to be done. I informed Ms. Via in an email on Feb. 4, 2016 that her complaint was broad in scope and I did not have an estimated date of completion.

Soon after Ms. Via's complaint, and as part of the allegations made by Ms Via, the Division of Racing conducted a surprise inspection of the TGP backside which included a thorough search of the Fune kennel including personal vehicles of those on duty at the time. As in the past, the Division will conduct further "unannounced inspections" going forward.

What is your department doing with respect to ensuring the health conditions at TGP are under control? If you are speaking in general terms of



health conditions, in addition to the unannounced inspections mentioned above, before each race night, every greyhound is examined by the TGP track vet. Those that are sick or off-form do not race. We, meaning that state-employed vets, routinely review the touch sheets of the TGP track vets to monitor care of injured or sick animals.

If this question is referring to the recent incidents of the past week, I can tell you that State Vet Dr. Andy Carlton provides the Division with daily updates on the condition of the dogs currently recovering. While not officially under the care of Dr. Carlton, the two dogs recovering appear to be improving from reports coming from the veterinarian hospital.

As of this morning of March 4, 2016, there were no new cases reported to Dr. Carlton from the track management. I'll also note here that PACC in their surprise inspection on Feb. 26 notes that *"no dogs in each of the kennels they inspected were coughing or wheezing or had nasal or eye discharge."* As of this writing, the number of dogs in this incident appear to be four of the approximate 450 canines. Although 99% of the dogs are currently exhibiting no symptoms, we continue to diligently monitor the situation.

On the two deceased dogs, both were littermates and arrived at TGP from Bluffs Run in Iowa. At time of arrival, all required paperwork, including vaccination records were in hand. The Division is awaiting the necropsy results from the second deceased dog to determine the exact cause of death. As customary, all dogs entering the track are routinely examined by a vet.

**What is your department doing to encourage TGP ownership to participate financially in the care and rehabilitation of injured and/or ill animals coming from their facilities?** It's important to note that the Division of Racing is a regulatory body. Nothing in our laws or rules, mandates that the department should "encourage" track ownership as you say to "Participate financially in the care and rehabilitation of injured or ill greyhounds." In the past, I have spoken with Mr. Popp regarding this issue and have heard in some instances where track management has participated in the some financial aspect, but it's a track management and dog ownership decision and not a governmental mandate.

**With this ongoing health and injury issue surrounding Tucson Greyhound Park, what steps is your department taking to ensure regular and thorough inspections of the site?** I believe I have covered this question with the answers above. However, in addition to the surprise inspections, the stewards

conduct track inspections on race nights, including the equipment. Any issues or safety concerns are brought to track management and addressed. Kennel inspections are conducted on an on-going basis, and issues are addressed with kennel personnel as well as track management.

Yesterday afternoon, I forwarded your PACC attachment to Chief Steward Dan Reinertson and asked him to give me a report on his findings.

Thank you for your attention to Ms. Via's complaint, and your response to these questions.

Steve Kozachik  
Tucson City Council, Ward 6

And here's my initial response...

*Thank you, Mr. Stiles. On first quick read, these comments - one of the dogs that died was taken to the vet subsequent to the PACC inspection. That begs the question as to just how thorough that inspection was, and what on-site vets are missing. To that second point, on the video it's clear that one of the dogs (box #1, race #9) can't even exit the chute at the start of the race. Track vets 'examine' every greyhound before every race? And that dog couldn't walk from the box? Steroids in the photos sent.*

*Also, track GM referenced distemper. No red flags from that comment?*

*Thx - will read more carefully and respond. SteveK*

I'll be looking forward to how they explain the steroids in the kennels and how they explain the vets allowing a dog that could barely stand up to be sent out to race. As for the PACC inspection, you cannot inspect over 400 dogs in multiple kennels in just over two hours – you cannot do a thorough inspection if you don't demand each dog stand up, and you can certainly not look for 'nasal discharge' while the dogs are wearing muzzles.

In response to my criticism of how the dogs are 'stored' out in the TGP kennels, Mr. Popp has said that 'they're athletes' and that I don't understand how to train athletes. In fact, I'm pretty familiar with that practice. What's not in most normal athletic training regimes is to keep them caged up with muzzles on and feed them steroids.

The State of Arizona allows this industry to exist. I would once again remind you that Senator Gail Griffin has a bill held up in her committee that would end live dog rac-



ing in this state. If you care to let her know how you feel, her email address is [griff4333@gmail.com](mailto:griff4333@gmail.com).

I'll let you know what the state regulators have to say when they get around to responding.

I've tongue-in-cheek suggested to the Department of Gaming folks that they consider this as an alternative to live dog racing:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M8YjvHYbZ9w>



*Let's lighten things up a bit...*

### **Hub Ice Cream Factory - 245 E. Congress**



With the temperatures about to start climbing, I figured I'd touch a hot-weather market niche this week. What began at the Hub and then Playground has birthed the Hub Ice Cream Factory right at that same site. They've always got 24 homemade flavors on site, and rotate through around 300 flavors in total. The Ice Cream Factory began as just a dessert option at Hub, but due to the overwhelming demand, it's out on its own now. This weekend is the March 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays event – a great time to check out the Factory.

#### *Hours*

*Sunday through Friday, noon till 10pm*

*Friday and Saturday, noon till 12am*



You can learn more at the Factory's website:

[www.hubicecream.com](http://www.hubicecream.com)

### **Arizona Sonora Border Project**

We've got the team pretty well set for the ArSoBo presentation that will be held at The Loft on April 21<sup>st</sup>. Following a short video that will introduce the UA Global Health Initiatives program, we'll focus on this cross-border project, which has been so meaningful to so many members of the disabled community who also happen to be poor.

Each time I learn about the depth of commitment the people in this community have to reaching the underserved, I'm even more honored to be in a position to help share the message. This has been true of so many of you who take time and invest of yourselves to reach out to those in need. The ArSoBo group is certainly in that category.

I'll be giving more detailed descriptions of the forum in the weeks ahead. For now though,



circle the date on your calendar, and please plan on coming to see and hear about this wonderful international effort to provide for the kind of health care needs that exist all around us. Here's a copy of the flyer Amy put together to help get the word out:

## Empowering Communities through Healthcare Partnerships

Cross-Border Relations, Accessible Healthcare, and Local Impacts



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE TUCSON  
Global & Border Health



You are invited to the free premiere of a short film on cross-border healthcare initiatives featuring the work of the Arizona Sonora Border Projects for Inclusion - or ARSOBO - the UA College of Medicine's Office of Global & Border Health and Sonoran University Center of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD).

After the screening, a panel of experts will discuss accessible, affordable health care, cross-border relations, and how lessons learned could help expand this work.

**Where:** The Loft Cinema – 3233 E Speedway Boulevard

**When:** Thursday, April 21st – 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.



**ARSOBO** works in Sonora, Mexico to provide low-cost medical devices like hearing aids, all-terrain wheel chairs, and prosthetic limbs to people with disabilities. It employs craftsmen who are users of the medical devices they build, and leverages donations to make the products available at prices its clients can afford.

*Questions? Contact the Ward 6 Council Office at (520) 791-4601*

### Bike Survey

You'll note that the UA College of Public Health is involved with the ArSoBo project. It's also involved with a survey being conducted in partnership with the City. This online sur-



vey will take your pulse on issues related to motor vehicle speed limits, especially on bike boulevards – those streets in largely residential areas that prioritize biking and walking. The survey is a part of the graduate research project in the UA Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health.

Other cities have decreased speed limits on their bike boulevards. Implementing some similar safety protocols is what this survey is all about. It shouldn't take you more than 10 minutes to complete, and your answers will remain anonymous. You need to get your information to them by March 18<sup>th</sup>.

Take the survey: <http://bit.ly/1oMpuRW>

Take the survey in Spanish: <http://bit.ly/1OM2Heb>

City of Tucson Bicycle and Pedestrian Program: <http://1.usa.gov/1LjdVuP>

### Gun Violence Prevention Arizona



These two people are Lonnie and Sandy Phillips. Their daughter Jessica was killed in the Aurora theater shooting back in July of 2012. On Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, they will take part in a presentation on gun violence prevention at St. Marks Presbyterian Church (3809 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, just down the road from the Ward 6 office).

This event will be cosponsored by Gun Violence Prevention Arizona (GVPA) and St. Mark's. The program will include the Phillips' plus live music by local artists and songwriters Sabra Faulk and Mitzi Cowell. The event will start at 6:30 and end at 8:00 pm.

I hope you can join us. It's a free event geared toward getting you involved in the gun safety movement in this town. If you'd like to get more information on other GVPA programs, you can look for them online or drop them a line at Gun Violence Prevention Arizona, PO Box 12146, Tucson AZ, 85711.

Sincerely,

Steve Kozachik  
Council Member, Ward 6  
[Ward6@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:Ward6@tucsonaz.gov)

## Events and Entertainment

### Tucson Winter Chamber Music Festival

**Sunday, March 13 – March 20, 2016**

**Tucson Convention Center, Leo Rich Theater, 260 S Church Ave**

The renowned festival is now in its 23rd year. As he has since the beginning, festival director Peter Rejto masterminds a stimulating mix of familiar and unfamiliar, old and new, from major works by Brahms, Schubert and Dvořák to the exciting world premieres of two works commissioned for the Festival. Visit [arizonachambermusic.org](http://arizonachambermusic.org) to purchase tickets and learn more, or call [\(520\) 577-3769](tel:5205773769).

**Tucson Homeless Connect****Friday, March 18, 2016 | 8:30 am – 12:30 pm****Trinity Presbyterian Church, 400 E University Blvd**

The mission of Tucson Homeless Connect is to provide a single location where local agencies, government, businesses, medical providers and the faith community collaborate to help the homeless persons with basic needs, referrals and advocacy. Visit [www.tucsonhomelessconnect.org](http://www.tucsonhomelessconnect.org) for more information and opportunities to donate or volunteer.

**Tucson Museum of Art's Spring Artisans Market****Friday, March 18 – Sunday, March 20, 2016 | 10 am – 5 pm each day****Tucson Museum of Art, 140 N Main Ave**

For 26 years, the Tucson Museum of Art's Spring Artisans Market has featured more than 100 juried artisans of finely crafted pottery, glass, jewelry, textiles, fine art, and gift items. The Museum is free and open to the public during all three days of Spring Artisans Market.

**Ongoing...****Tucson Convention Center**, 260 S Church St | [tucsonconventioncenter.com](http://tucsonconventioncenter.com)**Meet Me at Maynards**, 311 E Congress St | [www.MeetMeatMaynards.com](http://www.MeetMeatMaynards.com)

A social walk/run through the Downtown area. Every Monday, rain or shine, holidays too! Check-in begins at 5:15pm.

**Mission Garden**, 929 W Mission Ln | [www.tucsonsbirthplace.org](http://www.tucsonsbirthplace.org)

A re-creation of the Spanish Colonial walled garden that was part of Tucson's historic San Agustin Mission. For guided tours call 520-777-9270.

**Children's Museum Tucson**, 200 S 6<sup>th</sup> Ave | [www.childrensmuseumtucson.org](http://www.childrensmuseumtucson.org)

Tuesday - Friday: 9:00am - 5:00pm; Saturday & Sunday: 10:00am - 5:00pm

**Tucson Botanical Gardens**, 2150 N Alvernon Way | [www.tucsonbotanical.org](http://www.tucsonbotanical.org)

*October 1, 2015 – May 31, 2016: "Butterfly Magic" Exhibit*

**Southern Arizona Transportation Museum**, 414 N Toole Ave |[www.tucsonhistoricdepot.org](http://www.tucsonhistoricdepot.org)**UA Mineral Museum**, 1601 E University Blvd | [www.uamineralmuseum.org](http://www.uamineralmuseum.org)**Jewish History Museum**, 564 S Stone Ave | [www.jewishhistorymuseum.org](http://www.jewishhistorymuseum.org)**Fox Theatre**, 17 W Congress St | [www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org](http://www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org)**Hotel Congress**, 311 E Congress St | [hotelcongress.com](http://hotelcongress.com)**Loft Cinema**, 3233 E Speedway Blvd | [www.loftcinema.com](http://www.loftcinema.com)

**Rialto Theatre**, 318 E Congress St | [www.rialtotheatre.com](http://www.rialtotheatre.com)

**Arizona State Museum**, 1013 E University Blvd | [www.statemuseum.arizona.edu](http://www.statemuseum.arizona.edu)

**Arizona Theater Company**, 330 S Scott Ave | [www.arizonatheatre.org](http://www.arizonatheatre.org)

**The Rogue Theatre**, The Historic Y, 300 E University Blvd | [www.theroguetheatre.org](http://www.theroguetheatre.org)

**Tucson Museum of Art**, 140 N Main Ave | [www.TucsonMusuemofArt.org](http://www.TucsonMusuemofArt.org)

*January 16 – June 3, 2016: “Waterflow: Under the Colorado River”*